



COMCAST AWARDS \$25,000 TO FUND NEW YOUTH COUNCIL IN MILFORD
Youth Participants To Emerge As Community Leaders With Authority Over Mini-Grant Program, Community Events and Public-Service Projects

MILFORD, MA – (December 4, 2008) – Comcast, the nation's leading provider of entertainment, information and communications, today announced a \$25,000 Comcast Foundation grant to SCI Social Capital Inc. to bring SCI's youth council program to Milford – a new opportunity for youth between the ages of 12 and 18 to participate in civic life and have a direct positive impact in their community.

Teens selected as members of the council will administer an annual mini-grant program that will fund community projects proposed by other Milford youth. They will also participate in leadership training, organize community events and projects and serve as the civic voice for young people in Milford. In other communities where SCI has launched its locally coordinated youth council programs, council members have organized events including mayoral debates, neighborhood clean-up projects and benefit concerts. The activities of the JAG Youth Council in Milford, which is being coordinated by the Juvenile Advocacy Group, will be determined by its members and other local youth who apply for the council's support.

In a kick-off event at the Milford Community Center today, JAG Chair Amy Leone of Wayside Youth & Family Support Network issued a call to action for local youth, urging them to take advantage of this opportunity to assume a leadership role in Milford through the JAG Youth Council. She announced that the recruiting process for JAG Youth Council Members has begun, and that **applications for membership are due to JAG by January 12, 2009**. Council members will begin training in late January.

"This is a truly unique opportunity for kids to play a leadership role in the local community," she said. "With Comcast's generous support and SCI's expertise in creating youth councils like this, we are about to see a new generation of young leaders emerge. This is not just a club – the JAG Youth Council will be fully empowered to make decisions that will impact the local community. The whole community should be excited to know that this program is coming to town, because it means that local kids will be given more opportunities to make positive choices and to become truly involved in civic life in Milford."

"Comcast is committed to enriching the local communities that we serve, and we're excited to be able to help launch the youth council program for young people in Milford," said Paul D'Arcangelo, Vice President of Comcast's in Metro Boston. "We look forward to seeing the results of this investment in the community as the council takes shape and starts putting its resources to work."

SCI Social Capital, based in Woburn, will help set up the council and train its members as they assume responsibility for the mini-grant program and for organizing community events.

“What we have seen elsewhere is that young people can have a tremendous positive impact in their communities once they are empowered to organize community programs of their own design,” said SCI founder and president David Crowley. “Thanks to the generosity of Comcast, young leaders in Milford are going to be able to contribute to the local community in ways we can’t imagine today.”

For more information on the JAG Youth Council, go to www.jagnetnetwork.org or contact Amy Leone at amy_leone@waysideyouth.org or (508) 478-6888, ext. 204.

About SCI Social Capital

Since 2002, SCI Social Capital Inc. has been a national leader in exploring how communities can systematically and intentionally weave stronger social fabrics connecting its members. SCI is currently operating programs in Woburn, Dorchester, and Lynn, MA. SCI is now planning to replicate its Community Connector programs in communities across Massachusetts while continuing to expand its flagship locations.

About JAG

The Juvenile Advocacy Group (JAG) provides an opportunity for community agencies, schools, state and local institutions to network, coordinate services and identify and respond to emerging needs in the community. Through information sharing, JAG seeks to promote and advocate healthy development for youth and families in the greater Milford area by reducing substance use and other at risk behaviors through cooperation and collaboration.

About The Comcast Foundation

The Comcast Foundation was established by Comcast Corporation in 1999 to provide charitable support to Section 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. The Foundation primarily invests in programs intended to have a positive, sustainable impact in the areas of volunteerism, literacy, and youth leadership development. Since its inception, the Comcast Foundation has donated more than \$43 million to organizations in the communities that Comcast serves nationwide. More information about the Foundation and its programs is available at www.comcast.com/neighborhood.

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